

Message Text

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ORIGIN ORM-02

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SUBJECT: ICEM 1977 INDOCHINA BUDGET

REFS: A) STATE 58787, B) STATE 59589, C) STATE 67355

1. THE DEPARTMENT (D/HA) HAS REVIEWED THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE INDOCHINESE CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM SUBMITTED TO US MISSION IN A LETTER FROM THE ICEM DIRECTOR, DATED MAY 13, 1977. AN EXTENSION OF THE INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION WILL, OF COURSE, REQUIRE A MAJOR REVISION OF THESE ESTIMATES. WE HAVE THEREFORE RESTRICTED OUR COMMENTS TO THOSE ASPECTS OF THE BUDGET WHICH ARE CONCERNED WITH THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 - JULY 31, 1977.

2. TAKING THE ICEM PROJECTION AS A BASIS FOR COMPUTATION,
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WE WOULD ANTICIPATE TOTAL MOVEMENTS THROUGH JULY TO BE ON THE ORDER OF 2500. THERE ARE AMPLE FUNDS TO COVER COST OF MOVEMENTS IN ACCOUNT NUMBER 5 AND FROM OTHER SOURCES. THE MAIN PROBLEM CENTERS ON THE ITEMS LISTED AS DIRECT PROCESSING COSTS AND TRANSIT COSTS IN HONG KONG. WE ESTIMATE FROM THE ICEM PROJECTION THAT APPROXIMATELY DOLS 150,000 WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THESE ITEMS FOR THE

PERIOD. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO EXPERIENCE FACTOR TO DRAW ON

OTHER THAN AN INVOICE FROM ICEM FOR ITS SHARE OF THESE COSTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER IN THE AMOUNT OF DOLS 5,932. WE HAVE DEALT WITH THAT SPECIFIC CLAIM IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE.

3. AS THE MISSION WILL RECALL WE MADE AVAILABLE DOLS 100,000 TO ICEM AND FOUR VOLUNTARY AGENCIES THROUGH THE UNHCR FOR THESE SPECIFIC COSTS IN THE AMOUNT OF DOLS 20,000 EACH. WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON HOW THE COSTS ARE BEING SHARED AMONG THE FIVE ORGANIZATIONS. THE ICEM BUDGET PROPOSAL SUGGESTS, BUT THIS IS NOT ABSOLUTELY CLEAR, THE TOTAL AMOUNT WILL BE ABSORBED BY THAT ORGANIZATION, YET ICEM HAS ONLY EXPENDED DOLS 5,932 THROUGH MARCH 31. THE ICEM BUDGET LISTS COSTS HOWEVER ONLY FOR THAILAND AND HONG KONG AND NOT FOR THE OUTLYING REGIONS OR AREAS OF FIRST ASYLUM.

4. TO DETERMINE WHAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE REQUIRED FOR THESE TWO ITEMS, WE MUST HAVE PRECISE FISCAL INFORMATION ON THE ACTUAL EXPENDITURES BY ALL FIVE ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF CY 1977. WE CAN THEN PROJECT THAT FOR THE NEXT FOUR MONTHS - APRIL 1 - JULY 31. SHOULD THE CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM CONTINUE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, THEN A FURTHER PROJECTION CAN BE MADE. A LARGER PROGRAM UNCLASSIFIED

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WILL REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT REVISION OF ALL COST FIGURES.

5. WITH REGARD TO A CONTINGENCY RESERVE PROJECTED AT A LEVEL OF DOLS 222,460 FOR THE YEAR, WE CONSIDER THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF DOLS 30 FOR EACH MOVEMENT COVERS THIS ITEM AND WE DO NOT CONTEMPLATE MAKING SUCH A FUND AVAILABLE UNDER THE NEW GUIDELINES GOVERNING SPECIAL PROGRAMS.

6. ACCORDINGLY, US MISSION SHOULD CONSULT WITH ICEM, UNHCR AND THE FOUR VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO DETERMINE ACTUAL COSTS FOR PROCESSING AND HONG KONG TRANSIT AND A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF WHO DOES WHAT, WHERE AND FOR HOW MUCH SHOULD BE REACHED.

7. ONCE SUPPLIED THIS DATA WILL ENABLE D/HA TO DETERMINE WHAT FURTHER AMOUNTS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THESE ITEMS AND FOR WHICH ORGANIZATION. VANCE

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